

A

23

FAREWELL SERMON,

PREACHED IN THE

Church of the Holy Trinity,

BROOKLYN, L. I.,

FEBRUARY 26, 1860,

BY THE

REV. WM. H. LEWIS, D. D.



New-York:

PUBLISHED BY REV. F. D. HARRIMAN,

No. 762 BROADWAY

1860.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from

This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries

S E R M O N .

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the Gospel of the grace of God.—ACTS, xx. 24.

THE oriental address to a new-born babe, as translated from the Persian by Sir William Jones, is, “Thou enterest the world weeping, while others rejoice; so live, that thou mayest leave the world rejoicing, while others weep.”

In a true and faithful ministry, the sentiment of this beautiful address is realized. The newly ordained enters upon his office, melted to tears by a deep sense of his responsibility, while friends crowd around him with their congratulations; and the aged Pastor finishes his work with joy, as he looks back upon its successes, and forward to its rewards, though others may mourn that they shall see his face no more.

It is with the thoughts connected with a closing ministry, that we are now concerned; and here, that model for Pastors, St. Paul, may well be our guide. Though he labored elsewhere for some years after, yet he was now about to end his work at Ephesus, where he had resided and toiled longer than in any other

place. The pain of parting from the people of his charge was severe, their affection for him great, and their grief at his loss intense; yet no trial moved him, nor was life itself dear to him, so that he might have the joy of the faithful servant, in finishing his course. It would be a sad comment upon a Pastor's labors, if he could not, in their close, find much for the comfort of himself and of his people. Happy is that servant of Christ, who shall, at the last, lay down his work and his life together, with joy.

I should lose all confidence in professions of friendship and affection, dear brethren, if I could not believe that the announcement that this was to be the closing discourse of my ministry here, had caused deep and general regret. And I should be most unfeeling, if I could sever pastoral relations, so long continued and so tender, without emotion. Yet, even in this, there is a joy in the finishing of the course; for it would be sad to part with no regret or sorrow. But let us turn away from that which is saddening, and dwell upon that in the past, and in the future which may give us comfort.

I. My ministry, in this church, has been one of severe trials, and yet of trials over-ruled for good.

The best discipline for a minister is to have great success in his work, but to have it attended with great personal mortifications. Success without chastening, would lead to self-elation and vain-glory; chastening without success, to despondency; but the two combined foster humility, hope, dependence on God, and a disposition to give glory to His Name. It was re-

marked to me by a Bishop of the Church, that he had always succeeded in every great undertaking of his life, but ever without credit to himself, and that this was the best discipline for him.

The difficulties and trials of my Rectorship in this Church, have been such, as, in part, are well known, but in other respects, and in their greatest bitterness, known only by a few. I was, from the first, placed in a false position, from which all efforts to get free were unavailing, and, so far as the secular affairs and external relations of the Church were concerned, nothing could have been more directly opposite to the hopes with which I began, than the development which followed. Yet, all the while, in spiritual things, God gave me large encouragement; more than enough to repay all of trial and disappointment, and to keep me patiently at my work.

And, in difficulties of a later date, there has been the same mixture of evil with good, and the good rising above the evil. Our debt has been our great misfortune. All of trouble that we have known has arisen, directly or indirectly, from this cause. Scarcely a dissension has sprung up but from this one source. Scarcely a family has been lost to us, save in the ordinary course of removal. The blighting influence thereof has been felt in spiritual things. To be shut up to the work of meeting our own parish exigencies, without bearing a part in the more general charities of the Gospel, in this our day of glorious and successful effort, is a condition of things most sad, and, in its reflex influences, most injurious. Yet the alternative,

of suffering this edifice to pass into other hands, especially into such as seemed likely to have seized it, would have been worse ; and, if the work of its redemption and sure establishment be finally perfected, every Christian will rejoice in it. I cannot consider my ministry a failure, even so far as this end is concerned, nor, indeed, in a financial point of view. I may claim that, when no other relief seemed possible, my efforts, under God, were largely instrumental in saving the Church. And when I state that, during the four years since its purchase, we have raised at least \$80,000 for parish purposes alone, and that I leave the Church with as good a rental as it ever had, I cannot think that there can be any great discredit to me in the present state of our pecuniary affairs, even if raising money to pay debts of such a character as ours were a most appropriate work of the ministry, and one by which its efficiency was to be judged. Nor do I feel disposed to blame my people that all has not been done that was needful for relieving the property from embarrassment. They have, for the most part, responded nobly to my appeals, and I thank them for it. There are large numbers of them strongly attached to me, who can but just meet the demands for pew rental, and can but feebly respond to the call for thousands for extinguishing debts, though it would be in their hearts to give liberally, were the means of doing so within their power.

I must be allowed, for my own vindication and that of my friends, to say thus much and a few words further. My resignation, and its prompt acceptance,

with the speedy choice of a successor, have awakened surprise abroad, and are things reckoned to our mutual injury. Has there been any quarrel between the Rector and his people or Vestry, it is asked? Has he lost their affection? Will they do for a stranger what they would not do for the Pastor of long standing? These are the questions which are asked, and you will see that they are to the injury of my good name, and, I think, unjust also to you.

In answer to them I would say, that I believe nine tenths of my congregation, perhaps more, would prefer my services, if the needed means could be raised, to those of another Rector; and, further, that in the congregation *as it now is*, as much or more could be raised to meet our difficulties, for me as for any other person. Then what is the reason for a change? It is simply this: It is thought that a new man, entirely disconnected with past difficulties, may draw in wealthy persons and new parishioners who will help to bear the burden. It is said, and truly, that each man has his own circle of influences, and that one may carry a work to a certain point, and then another may take it up and bring it to a completion; when, if the case were reversed, the second might have failed at the outset, and the first have been needed to perfect his work, and all without any disparagement to either. This may be true, and in this view lies the hopefulness of the change. I do not doubt at all that the same energy now drawn forth to meet the exigencies of the case, if put forth for me, might have resulted in temporary relief, and, perhaps, effected as

much as can be done just at present. But the parish needs permanent relief; and I need, for my health's sake, rest from the wear of the continued effort in this direction which has been added to that of my heavy parochial duties ;—and, therefore, the change is to be made.

This, I think, is a fair statement of the case. We have a large congregation, but made up largely of those in moderate circumstances. They have responded well to my appeals, but are greatly discouraged by the magnitude of the debt, and the hope of the requisite aid is, avowedly, not from them, but from others who may come in. My own duty in the matter seemed clear. I resigned, because, after all that had been done, there still remained a debt of \$65,000, and a deficiency in the income of over \$2,000 a year, and I could not obtain from the Vestry the assurance that even this deficiency should be met, so that our debt, already large enough, should not be increased; on which condition alone could I, as an honest man, have remained, but on which I was willing to remain. If I had regarded only selfish interests, I might have held on to the Rectorship, but the final extrication of the church from its difficulties seemed to demand a different course. If any one can relieve it from them, the Rev. Brother who has been called, and whose call has my hearty approval, can do it. Others, better able to bear the burden, may perhaps come in, and so the result desired, be ultimately, and it may be, after further sacrifices and changes, attained. In all great and difficult undertakings, many successive efforts and work-

men accomplish the end ; and usually the last bear the credit and wear the crown. So let it be here.

I will only add upon this point, that though I have been blamed for taking so large a part in the financial affairs of the parish, yet it will be found, that the leading part in such cases does invariably, whether rightfully or wrongfully, fall upon the minister—that the secular and spiritual interests of a Church are inseparable—that there is no way of presenting appeals for money for Church purposes, whether by Rector or Vestry, that will not be distasteful, and sure to awaken cavil, and that if I had been always silent upon these points, we might now have had no church to worship in. And though it may seem to many that it would have been better if the Church had been given up at the first, it did not appear so at the time of purchase, nor will it appear so if the work of its release from difficulty be perfected. If I have over-urged the matter of our debts, or presented it offensively, I regret it, and am as glad as you can be to be able now to leave it in other hands, and to drop the subject to-day and forever ; hoping to be forgiven for any hasty words and mistaken acts into which I may have been led, under the pressure of a trouble from that source, the anxieties whereof have been to me almost beyond endurance.

II. The position I have held in this Church has been one of some general influence, and I finish my ministry in it with joy, in the belief that it has been used successfully for the furtherance of the Gospel, and especially for the promotion of unity and peace.

Christians of the various evangelical bodies are agreed upon the main doctrines of our holy religion, and will meet as one in the Church in Heaven; and it should be the endeavor of all who love the Lord, to bring them to unite as far as possible in the Church on earth. And Episcopalians, though differing on minor points, do all hold that salvation is through the alone merits of the Redeemer, and the regenerating and sanctifying influences of the Spirit; therefore, they especially should be at unity among themselves. Believing this, and holding on to all sound Church principles myself, I have endeavored for years past to bring Christians nearer together, and to lead churchmen, in this city and elsewhere, to meet together, and, I trust, not without some success at home and abroad. It is a matter of thankfulness, in finishing my ministry in this prominent position, that I can hope I have been known as a peace-maker among brethren, for the day will come when one word spoken for peace, shall appear of more worth than volumes of controversy.

III. Let me also publicly acknowledge, with devout gratitude and joy, the mercies of a more personal character which have crowned my ministry here.

During nearly twenty years of labor in this city, I have never required leave of absence, beyond a Sunday or two in each summer for my health, and have rarely lost a day, or an opportunity of ministering, through sickness, though exposed often to diseases of the most malignant form. Many and warm-hearted have been the friends I have found, and multiplied

their manifestations of kindness ; while few have been the deeds of unkindness that leave unpleasant remembrances. It is of God's mercies, too, that amid the temptations of a city life, all of my household will, I trust, have come forward to God's altar in a public confession of Christ, ere the Easter Season closes, while one has been called to a service of special honor by the Great Master. Better than riches or worldly distinctions are rewards like these.

IV. In regard to pastoral labors and success, the statistics of this Church, during my Rectorship, will afford some help to a right estimate.

Our report to the Convention last year shows, in some particulars, a larger return of parochial work performed, than that from any other single Church in this, or the neighboring city. St. Ann's Church, in this city, is one of the largest of Brooklyn parishes, yet, from a quarter-century Sermon just published, it appears that in the thirteen-and-a-half* years since the opening of the Church of The Holy Trinity, the parochial statistics about equal, in some points, those of that Church for twenty-five years ; as, for instance, here there have been 838 funerals ; there, 823 ; here, 599 confirmed ; there, 558.

The grand total of Reports in this Church from the beginning to the close of my rectorship is as fol-

* The time of our existence as a Church, was inadvertently stated, when the Sermon was preached, as twelve-and-a-half years. The Report from St. Ann's for twenty-five years, was 775 new communicants ; baptisms, 1382 ; marriages, 509 ; funerals and confirmed, as stated above.

lows:—There have joined the Communion 1,657 persons: viz., by accessions from other parishes, 1,210, and 447 new communicants; 87 have died; 1,042 have removed, leaving the present number 528. Baptisms—adults, 144; infants, 1,131: in all, 1,275. Confirmed, 599; marriages, 475; funerals, 838.

During the early part of my rectorship, when we could do nothing for parish purposes beyond the payment of pew-rents, much was done for various charitable objects. One Church was erected in this city by us, and for years, chiefly by us, sustained as a Mission Church. One Church in the West, now flourishing and self-sustaining, owes its existence to our contributions. Many other Churches have been largely aided. One Missionary was sent out, and for some time supported in the foreign field. A Scholarship of \$2,000 for theological education has been endowed, the nomination thereto being in the hands of the Rector. Until the purchase of the Church called for all our resources, a fair proportion in the charities of the day was borne by this parish; since then we have done little abroad.

One of the most gratifying features in our parish history is in the fact, that so many of our former members, scattered now into Churches in all parts of the country, are found actively laboring in their new relations for the cause of Christ. We have had connected with us an unusual proportion of young people trained here and making here their first profession, and then leaving for other homes. Often and often have they been heard from as retaining a strong attachment

to their mother Church, and doing credit to her influences. A very goodly number of them are now in the ministry, or are preparing for it. We talk of the cost of our building, and complain of the expense in sustaining its services ; and it may be, and probably is, true, that the same results might have been gained in a more economical way ; but, after all, what—according to our Lord's estimate of the worth of the soul—is the cost in money and labor compared with the spiritual good attained. If the expenditure on the machinery has been double that of our parishes of ordinary size, so have the results been twice as large.

How much of this external showing from our table of statistics will bear the trial of the Great Day is yet to be seen. There will be the test of the results. Oh ! I do trust that all will not be as chaff in the winnowing fan. Nearly six hundred persons have made their first confession of Christ at this altar during my ministry. I have heard the expression of their hopes and fears, and have sought to show them what the inner life of faith is, and what should be its outer manifestations. Many of them, in this and my former charge, have known no other pastor from infancy to the maturity of confirmation and communion. Many, also, for a long time professors of religion, have confessed that here they gained new and experimental acquaintance with its power. It cannot be that all this will be lost in the Great Day. No ! Many converted souls have already gone to glory from my ministry. They are safe within the fold. And others, whom God has made me instru-

mental in leading to Christ, are wending their way to the same home of the blessed ; and I trust I shall meet them there. Other voices will fill this Church, generation after generation, but the first pastor and the first of the flock will then have gathered where there is no severing of loved ties, no end of sweet communion and holy fellowship. Here, in this hope, is a joy in the finishing of my course and ministry among you that cannot be taken from me. There has been a good work done here that shall remain, and call forth praises forever.

V. And now, dear brethren, let me say a few words concerning the future of this Church.

I can have no wish or prayer for it but that it may remain in increased strength and prosperity for all coming years. It has been a spiritually prosperous Church. So may it continue to be. There is little fear now of its passing out of the hands of churchmen, though the effort to retain and sustain it will not be a light one ; for at the worst it need but to pass into the hands of another Episcopal congregation. Let me bespeak unity and earnestness in the effort to retain and sustain it. Sometimes it is said to the Pastor who resigns, " If you leave we shall go elsewhere ;" or, " We shall never seek to be attached to any other minister." It may be right enough to remove, where a change of residence, or distance, or a preference for particular ministrations, renders a change in the Church relations desirable, but as a mere expression of attachment to a Pastor the feeling referred to is wrong. It is placing the man above the Church.

As far as may be consistent with duty hold on, and, if you hold on, hold together. All of strength that can be had will be needed here, and the firm establishment of the Church will well repay labor. Let there be no divided counsels among you. I say it with sorrow, but it is true, that if I had had from the outset, during these four years, a whole Church working together, I should still have remained, rejoicing in our deliverance from that which has been our great evil, and eventually leaving my place to my successor, with the work of deliverance from incumbrances completed. What is ever gained by Church strifes? Not enough to pay the cost of victory, unless it be where some vital truth of our holy religion is at stake. A house divided against itself cannot stand. Devise some plan, if it be possible, by which all shall be satisfied to work together; and it will be possible, if self-preference and self-will be sacrificed for the good of the Church. My own connection with the parish has been of a character so peculiar and so anomalous, that, very likely, as long as I might have remained, contests with each other, if not with me, would have continued. The hope that they may die with my removal entered into the reasons for my resignation. Give to your new Rector your united support, for he is worthy of it. Live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

VI.—Let me urge also upon you a readiness to be satisfied with a reasonable degree of faithfulness in your Pastor, and of efficiency and comfort in your pastoral relations, wherever and whatever they may be.

The tendency of the age, and, I may say, especially of this place, is just the reverse of this. It is said that, in our city, within a short time, six or eight Pastors of the prominent Churches of different denominations have left their fields of labor ; and, it is rumored, that other like changes may soon take place. The city, at such a rate, will gain a bad name, for, certainly, some of these changes have been a great loss to it, and, probably, with no sufficient cause for them on the part of those unsettled. There are local influences here effecting such results, and likely to be still more disastrous in their operation, unless Christians oppose their action.

If a minister be reasonably faithful in his work—if he be successful in winning souls to Christ—if he attend diligently to pastoral duties—if his congregation maintain its due standing in numbers and attendance—if there be no fault to be found with his private or ministerial character—God has set His approving seal upon that Pastor, and Christians ought to sustain him in his work. And wherever Church expenses are made so heavy, or Churches built of so costly a character, that these reasonable demands from the ministry will not satisfy, but the Pastor must be sacrificed to the supposed necessities of the case, there is not only a wrong done to him, but a wrong to the Church of Christ, which must be visited and righted somewhere and at some time, as all wrongs will be.

It is in this point of view that my own change seems to me most dark and troublous. If the reasonable demands of the ministry had not been met by me,

if I had been charged with unfaithfulness, if the Church had not held its own in every respect with the other Episcopal Churches in the city, if God had evidently ceased to bless my labors, then the duty of leaving my place would have been clear. But nothing of this kind is alleged or true, and the very opposite is affirmed by all ; and yet I must leave with the hope and expectation that another may *draw in* or *draw forth* wealth and means, that my ministry, successful in other respects, cannot gain for the heavy expenditures of this costly Church. This may be *financially* expedient and necessary, but it is *religiously* wrong.

Happy should I be, if I might be the last sacrifice to such a mode of operation ; happy if my closing words may have any influence among Christians of any and every name, in protesting against a policy unjust to Pastors, and injurious to the cause of Christ.

Much would I add, in looking around, as I now do, upon this sacred place, and this people, with the feeling that I can be here no more, save as a visitor ; and that I have, so far as this field of labor is concerned, finished my course and the ministry which I have received to testify the Gospel of the grace of God. It has been a place of great opportunities of usefulness. Large congregations have assembled here, and there has been marked attention to the preached Word. It is fearful to think of giving an account of such a Stewardship in the Great Day. I need the prayers of God's people that the sins of my ministry may be for-

given me, and the evil thereof averted from the souls to which I have ministered : “ Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, oh, God ! and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy righteousness.”

Yet, with much of failure, I have the consciousness that I have, upon the whole, striven to preach Christ in simplicity and godly sincerity, just as plainly, and simply, and fearlessly, here, in this splendid Church, and to this congregation, as in the humbler edifices of other Parishes where I have officiated. You will bear me witness, I trust, that I have not shunned to declare unto you the whole counsel of God, and that plain speaking on the vital doctrines of the Cross has been the characteristic of my ministry. Nothing else, indeed, has there been to render my work acceptable and successful ; and that it has been spiritually successful, is proof that the Gospel in its simplicity and power has been set forth. Would to God that it had been more faithfully set forth, and been more successful. All around in the congregation are those whom I have labored to bring to Christ—through the public address, in the private conversation, and by my prayers ; and yet I must leave many of them undecided still. Think, dear friends, when I am gone, of the Word which has been spoken to you, and though I have not met you here at the altar, as the followers of Christ, meet me in the Great Day among those who have confessed His name.

The young of the congregation have ever had my special attention. Rarely have I failed of being present at every Sunday School session, from its open-

ing devotions to its close. For the most part, we have had a flourishing School, and large accessions have been made from it to the Confirmation classes, and to the number of new Communicants. It has been a nursery for the Church. Those Christmas and Easter anniversaries, when the whole body of this Temple was filled with our scholars, and every other spot with interested friends, will long live in remembrance, and can hardly ever, hereafter, be exceeded in interest. Dear children, I hope to hear of you, or to meet you in after-life as the followers of the Saviour, and to join with you, at last, amid scenes of festal joy, compared with which the best of earth will seem poor and spiritless.

There are present many of the friends and parishioners of former days, as well as those of my more recent charge. We can go back, brethren, to the scenes of that first Church in which we worshipped, and recall them with joy. There was entire unity there. We had a crowded congregation, and great prosperity. The name of that old *Calvary Church*, and the remembrances of the good times enjoyed in it, are cherished by many. And here, also, there has been much to endear pastoral relations. In both Churches, I had the very great advantage of starting entirely anew, and of having congregations of my own gathering. Every family and individual came out of choice, and with a preference of my ministrations, or, at least, satisfied with them. And this gave a homogeneous character to the congregation, and a oneness in the essential point of attachment to their Pastor, rarely attained when one minister succeeds another.

They were, emphatically, *my people*. No one else had so good a right to them, for God gave them to me.

And they have been a kind people ; and rarely does a Pastor find more and better friends than I have had in this city. My heart's desire would have been to have remained, and to have labored among them while strength to labor lasted, had God, in His Providence, opened the way for me so to do. But all is dark and uncertain to me yet, as to my future course. It may lead me far away from hence. Pray that I may be guided aright. If, in God's Providence, it be to some distant home, let us remember that God doeth all things well, and that the promise is sure that all things shall work together for good to them that love Him.

I have not dwelt upon that which is sad in our separation, nor sought to stir up feelings of sorrow at parting, for that will suggest itself fast enough to all, but have endeavored to direct your minds and my own to causes of thankfulness and joy, and to thoughts and words of faith and holy hope. God reigneth—in Heaven there is rest. The changes of earth will soon be over ; let us be faithful unto death, and we shall receive a crown of life. The Church in Heaven is our true Church and Home. The Family above is the true family, in which there is no sin, nor sorrow, nor separation. There, from the varied fields of my ministry, may multitudes of those to whom I have ministered be gathered with me at last, to praise and adore the riches of redeeming grace together, and forever.

PAROCHIAL STATISTICS OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, BROOKLYN, L. I., DURING ITS FIRST RECTORSHIP.

Year ending with Con- vention of New-York.	COMMUNICANTS.				Present number in each year.	BAPTISMS.			Confirmed.	Marriages.	Funerals.	Contributions for various charities.	SUNDAY-SCHOOL.				GENERAL REMARKS.
	ADDED.		LOST.			Adults.	Infants.	Total.					Teachers.	Scholars.	Total.	No. of Books in S. S. Library.	
	By removal.	New.	By Death.	By removal.													
1847.....	273	15	10	17	261	13	60	73	37	14	47	\$1,075 14	120	The collections after the purchase of the church include all given beyond Pew Rents, for the debt and expenses. A discrepancy of 12 in the number of Commu- nicants will be seen in the total, for 1860 and the grand total, present number. It is difficult to keep the record of so many years with perfect accuracy.
1848.....	59	39	5	84	275	10	69	79	1	20	48	1,381 05	37	206	243	.....
1849.....	89	36	5	69	336	8	99	107	40	35	64	1,721 45	35	265	300	.....
1850.....	77	53	5	46	415	26	94	120	100	31	55	3,559 18	42	270	312	.....
1851.....	91	27	6	111	416	8	75	83	37	41	63	5,510 59	42	320	362	.....
1852.....	86	34	4	114	418	14	109	123	70	49	90	3,324 97	43	346	389	.....
1853.....	84	20	8	84	435	5	94	99	45	49	74	4,259 91	44	372	416	.....
1854.....	78	34	12	58	469	13	95	108	31	59	80	5,049 73	No	Recd.	.....	.....
1855.....	60	29	9	79	470	7	85	92	49	40	58	6,270 11	37	323	360	1,147	
1856.....	72	25	4	80	483	6	94	100	35	30	60	2,814 59	41	325	366	1,200	
1857.....	80	26	4	125	460	4	69	73	41	36	61	no record.	29	360	389	.....
1858.....	68	57	5	55	525	17	74	91	63	32	54	no record.	40	329	369	.....
1859.....	70	47	7	89	546	11	83	94	50	27	57	7,960 76	44	368	412	.....
Feb. 7, 1860..	23	5	3	31	540	2	31	33	....	12	27	.....	....	....	.....	.....
Grand Total	1,210	447	87	1,042	528	144	1,131	1,275	599	475	838	\$42,927 48	...	....	...	.....

The collections after the purchase of the church include all given beyond Pew Rents, for the debt and expenses. A discrepancy of 12 in the number of Communicants will be seen in the total for 1860 and the grand total, present number. It is difficult to keep the record of so many years with perfect accuracy.

BRIEF NOTICES RESPECTING THE PARISH.

Services were commenced in the Chapel on Trinity Sunday, June 7th, 1846, and in the Church, April 25th, 1847.

The REV. B. G. NOBLE, assisted the Rector for a while. The REV. T. S. DROWNE, became assistant November 16th, 1848, and in May, 1858, was called to St. Paul's Church, Brooklyn. The REV. H. T. GREGORY was for a short time the assistant, and was succeeded by the REV. C. B. SMITH, who resigned February 1st, 1860, after which temporary services were rendered by the REV. JOHN V. LEWIS.

The Church was organized November 27th, 1851, and admitted into Convention, October 1st, 1852. The Church edifice was purchased from the original proprietor EDGAR J. BARTOW, Esq., by the Vestry, March 27th, 1856, at a cost, including immediate repairs, of over \$102,000, the first cost being near \$200,000. The Consecration by BISHOP POTTER was September 23d, 1856.

The expectation held out in a report to Convention, and to the Bishop as a point of safety for consecration, of reducing the debt to \$50,000, was not realized through failures among the purchasers of Pews in the financial crisis, and of other pledges. The amount of unsold Pews December 31st, 1859, was \$54,390.

The Rector's Resignation was offered January 6th, 1860, and made final February 6th, 1860.

PAROCHIAL STATISTICS OF CALVARY CHURCH, BROOKLYN, DURING THE RECTORSHIP OF REV. W. H. LEWIS.

Year ending with Con- vention.	COMMUNICANTS.					BAPTISMS.			Confirmed.	Marriages.	Funerals.	Contributions for Charities.	SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.				GENERAL REMARKS.
	ADDED.		LOST.		Present number.	Adults.	Infants.	Total.					Teachers.	Scholars.	Total.	Library Books.	
	By removal.	New.	By removal.	Died.													
1841.....	142	17	7	135	1	35	36	7	16	\$83 25	31	214	245	Small discrepancies exist here in this table as well as in that of Church of Holy Trinity. Services commenced Nov. 15th, 1840, and the church organized the same year. The edifice was enlarged in 1841. The Rector resigned, June 15, 1847.
1842.....	77	44	55	1	200	16	63	79	60	14	30	250 59	44	283	327	.....
1843.....	54	53	29	9	269	21	78	99	52	13	51	552 63	47	299	346	.....
1844.....	44	26	34	6	301	6	69	75	16	9	35	910 13	50	300	350	500†	
1845.....	in 3 years	.....	28	3	323	1	65	66	....	12	36	847 10	50	312	362	.....
1846.....	.....	.....	33	7	350	7	60	67	60	20	40	806 60				.....
To June 15, 1847.....	68*	49*	.....	....	364	4	25	29	5	4	15	....	....	....	....	.....
Totals in Cal- vary	387	189	186	26	364	56	395	451	193	79	223	3,450 30	....	....	....	.....
Totals in Ch. of Holy Trinity...	1,210	447	1,042	87	528	144	1,131	1,275	599	475	838	41,927 48	....	....	....	.....
Grand Total	1 597	636	1,228	113	892	200	1 726	1,726	792	554	1061	\$46,377 78	....	....	....	.....

* In three years.

† Added this year.

